

## Item 1 Cover Page

A.

**Elizabeth A. Barrett, MA, CFP<sup>®</sup>, AIF<sup>®</sup>**

Sterling Wealth Advisors, Inc.

ADV Part 2B, Brochure Supplement

Dated: March 31, 2021

Contact: Elizabeth A. Barrett, MA, CFP<sup>®</sup>, AIF<sup>®</sup>

Chief Compliance Officer

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Plantation, Florida 33324

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B.

This Brochure Supplement provides information about Elizabeth A. Barrett, MA, CFP<sup>®</sup>, AIF<sup>®</sup> that supplements the Sterling Wealth Advisors, Inc. Brochure. You should have received a copy of that Brochure. Please contact Elizabeth A. Barrett, MA, CFP<sup>®</sup>, AIF<sup>®</sup>, Chief Compliance Officer if you did not receive Sterling Wealth Advisors, Inc.'s brochure or if you have any questions about the contents of this Supplement.

Additional information about Elizabeth A. Barrett, MA, CFP<sup>®</sup>, AIF<sup>®</sup> is available on the SEC's website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).

## Item 2 Education Background and Business Experience

Elizabeth A. Barrett, MA, CFP<sup>®</sup>, AIF<sup>®</sup> was born in 1964. Ms. Barrett graduated from Bryan College, in 1986, with a bachelor's degree in psychology. Ms. Barrett graduated from Trinity International University, in 1988, with a master's degree in counseling psychology. Ms. Barrett has served as President of Sterling Wealth Advisors, Inc. since July of 1997.

Ms. Barrett has been a CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER<sup>™</sup> professional since March 30, 1998. Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards, Inc. ("CFP Board") owns the CFP<sup>®</sup> certification mark, the CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER<sup>™</sup> certification mark, and the CFP<sup>®</sup> certification mark (with flame design) logo in the United States (these marks are collectively referred to as the "CFP<sup>®</sup> marks"). The CFP Board authorizes use

of the CFP® marks by individuals who successfully complete the CFP Board's initial and ongoing certification requirements.

The CFP® certification is a voluntary certification; no federal or state law or regulation requires financial planners to hold CFP® certification. It is recognized in the United States and a number of other countries for its (1) high standard of professional education; (2) stringent code of conduct and standards of practice; and (3) ethical requirements that govern professional engagements with clients. Currently, more than 88,000 individuals have obtained CFP® certification.

Currently to attain the right to use the CFP® marks, an individual must successfully fulfill the following requirements:

- Education – Complete a college-level course of study addressing the financial planning subject areas that CFP Board's studies have determined as necessary for the competent and professional delivery of financial planning services or an accepted equivalent, including [completion of a financial plan development capstone course](#), and attain a Bachelor's Degree from an accredited college or university. CFP Board's financial planning subject areas include professional conduct and regulation, general principles of financial planning, education planning, risk management and insurance planning, investment planning, income tax planning, retirement savings and income planning, and estate planning;
- Examination – Pass the comprehensive CFP® Certification Examination. The examination, administered in 6 hours, includes case studies and client scenarios designed to test one's ability to correctly diagnose financial planning issues and apply one's knowledge of financial planning to real world circumstances;
- Experience – CFP Board requires 6,000 hours of experience through the Standard Pathway, or 4,000 hours of experience through the Apprenticeship Pathway that meets additional requirements; and
- Ethics – Agree to be bound by CFP Board's *Code of Ethics and Standards of Conduct*, which put clients' interest first; acknowledge CFP Board's right to enforce them through its *Disciplinary Rules and Procedures*; comply with the *Financial Planning Practice Standards* which determine what clients should reasonably expect from the financial planning engagement and complete a CFP® Certification Application which requires disclosure of an individual's background, including involvement in any criminal, civil, governmental, or self-regulatory agency proceeding or inquiry, bankruptcy, customer complaint, filing, termination/internal reviews conducted by the individual's employer or firm.

Individuals who become certified must complete the following ongoing education and ethics requirements in order to maintain the right to continue to use the CFP® marks:

- Continuing Education – Complete 30 hours of continuing education hours accepted by the CFP Board every two years, including two hours on the *Code of Ethics* and other parts of the *Standards of Professional Conduct*, to maintain competence and keep up with developments in the financial planning field; and

- Ethics – CFP® professionals agree to adhere to the high standards of ethics and practice outlined in CFP Board’s Code of Ethics and Standards of Conduct and to acknowledge CFP Board’s right to enforce them through its Disciplinary Rules and Procedures. The Code of Ethics and Standards of Conduct require that CFP Professionals provide financial planning services in the best interests of their clients.
- Certification Application – Properly complete a Certification Application to (i) acknowledge voluntary adherence to the [terms and conditions of certification with CFP Board](#) and (ii) disclose any involvement in criminal and civil proceedings, inquiries or investigations, bankruptcy filings, internal reviews and customer complaints.

CFP® professionals who fail to comply with the above standards and requirements may be subject to CFP Board’s enforcement process, which could result in suspension or permanent revocation of their CFP® certification.

You may [verify an individual's CFP®](#) certification and background through the CFP Board. The verification function will allow you to verify an individual’s certification status, CFP Board’s disciplinary history and any bankruptcy disclosures in the past ten years. Additional regulatory information may also be found through [FINRA’S BrokerCheck](#) and the [SEC’s Investment Adviser Public Disclosure databases](#), which are free tools that may be used to conduct research on the background and experience of CFP® professionals and those who held CFP® certification at one time, including with respect to employment history, regulatory actions, and investment-related licensing information, arbitrations, and complaints.

Ms. Barrett became an Accredited Investment Fiduciary® (AIF®) in March 2010. The AIF Designation certifies that the recipient has specialized knowledge of fiduciary standards of care and their application to the investment management process. To receive the AIF Designation, the individual must meet prerequisite criteria based on a combination of education, relevant industry experience, and/or ongoing professional development, complete a training program, successfully pass a comprehensive, closed-book final examination under the supervision of a proctor and agree to abide by the Code of Ethics and Conduct Standards. In order to maintain the AIF Designation, the individual must annually attest to the Code of Ethics and Conduct Standards, and accrue and report a minimum of six hours of continuing education. The Designation is administered by the Center for Fiduciary Studies, the standards-setting body of fi360.

### **Item 3 Disciplinary Information**

None.

#### **Item 4 Other Business Activities**

- A. Ms. Barrett is not actively engaged in any other investment-related businesses or occupations.
- B. Ms. Barrett is not actively engaged in any non-investment-related business or occupation for compensation.

#### **Item 5 Additional Compensation**

As an owner of Sterling Wealth Advisors, Inc. Ms. Barrett's compensation is indirectly contingent on the number of clients she refers to the firm, the performance of client accounts, and the addition of investment assets to current client accounts.

#### **Item 6 Supervision**

Sterling Wealth Advisors, Inc. provides investment advisory and supervisory services in accordance with current state regulatory requirements. Sterling Wealth Advisors, Inc.'s Chief Compliance Officer, Elizabeth A. Barrett, MA, CFP<sup>®</sup>, AIF<sup>®</sup>, is primarily responsible for overseeing the activities of Sterling Wealth Advisors, Inc.'s supervised persons. Ms. Barrett also monitors accounts and conducts account reviews on at least an annual basis. Ms. Barrett is available at (954) 771-1313.

#### **Item 7 State-Registered Investment Advisors**

- A. Ms. Barrett has never been involved in an arbitration proceeding or a civil, self-regulatory, or administrative proceeding.
- B. Ms. Barrett has never been the subject of a bankruptcy petition.